

X is, in each case, a hydrogen atom [and/or] or a metal ion equivalent of an element of atomic number 21-29, 42, 44 or 57-83;

with the provisos that:

at least two of the substituents X represent a metal ion equivalent;

one of the substituents Z^1 and Z^2 is hydrogen and the other is not hydrogen;

when n and l each are 0, then k and r are not each simultaneously 1;

$[-(O)_4-R] - (O)_r-R$ is not $-OH$;

Z^1 and Z^2 are not $-CH_2-C_6H_4-O-CH_2-COOCH_2C_6H_5$, $-CH_2-C_6H_5$ or $-CH_2-C_6H_4-O-(CH_2)_5-COOCH_2C_6H_5$;

Z^1 is not phenyl when Z^2 is H; and

at least one of q and l is 1;

or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof with an inorganic and/or organic base, an amino acid or an amino acid amide.

Claim 30, line 1: Change " Z^1 " to -- Z^2 --.

REMARKS

Amendments

Counsel gratefully acknowledges the examiner's indication of a typographical error in claim 1 which is eliminated in the above amended version of the claim. Claim 30 is also amended to correct a typographical error.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

As indicated in the Office Action, column 3, lines 67-68, of Gansow (U.S. 4,824,986) lists "straight chain alkanes, benzyl, and phenylethylene" as preferred side chains. However, these so-called side chains are not the complete structure of the side group attached to the chelate backbone, but only a portion thereof.

At column 3, lines 34-40, Gansow describes the chelates as bifunctional chelates in which a functional group is attached to